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1/18/02**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE**

Applicants: Jue-Chen Liu, et al.

Serial No.: (Continuation of 09/361,426) Art Unit: 1619

Filed: July 27, 1999 Examiner: S. Sharareh

For: COMPOSITIONS TO ENHANCE PERMEATION OF TOPICAL SKIN AGENTS

Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Dear Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment is respectfully submitted in connection with the filing of the continuation of patent application of Serial No. 09/361,426. Serial No. 09/361,426 continues to pend on the basis of a Petition for Extension of Time filed in said copending patent application, a copy of which is attached hereto. Kindly amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

At page 1, line 1, kindly insert the following:

--This patent application is a continuation application of United States Serial No. 09/361,426, filed July 27, 1999, and of Provisional patent application Serial No. 60/104,060 filed October 13, 1998, which are hereby incorporated by reference herein.—

Kindly cancel claims 1-23 without prejudice.

Kindly add the following claims:

27. A method of enhancing the penetration of a lipophilic compound into the skin of a mammal comprising the steps of providing a composition comprising

a. a topically active amount of a lipophilic compound;
b. from about 0.01% to about 20% of a sugar;
c. from about 0.01% to about 20% of an acrylate/C10-C30 alkyl acrylate cross-polymer; and
d. from about 0.01% to about 20% of a polyoxyethylene alcohol; and

applying said composition to the skin.